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cait—Computer-Assisted Indexing Tutor: Implemented for Training at NAL

by Holly Irving
Indexing Branch, NAL

The National Agricultural Library's Indexing Branch has developed a computer-assisted training program to replace its previous instructional method. The result is "cait" (pronounced, "Kate") for Computer-Assisted Indexing Tutor. "cait" was constructed using ToolBook(tm) software by Asymetrix to create a Windows(tm) application and is expected to be utilized by indexers, technicians, and others interested in learning about indexing at NAL.

New indexers at NAL generally spend six months to one year under the tutelage of an experienced indexer, learning the complex procedures and intellectual skills required to maintain the high standards of the AGRICOLA bibliographic database. This one-on-one educational approach has two major disadvantages: 1) It requires a significant time commitment on the part of an experienced professional thereby causing a serious reduction of productivity. Trainers report an overall 25 to 30 percent decrease in their indexing production during the training period. This decrease may be as much as 50% during the initial one or two months when a new employee's needs are the greatest. 2) Although they are highly qualified to perform other aspects of their jobs, experienced staff members are not always the most effective teachers.

By utilizing "cait" as a form of computer-aided instruction (CAI), the Indexing Branch hopes to provide for NAL indexers high-quality training that is comprehensive, consistent, and largely self-directed.

(See "cait" on page 2)

Global Change Data & Information System; Assisted Search for Knowledge

by Roberta Rand
Information Systems Division, NAL

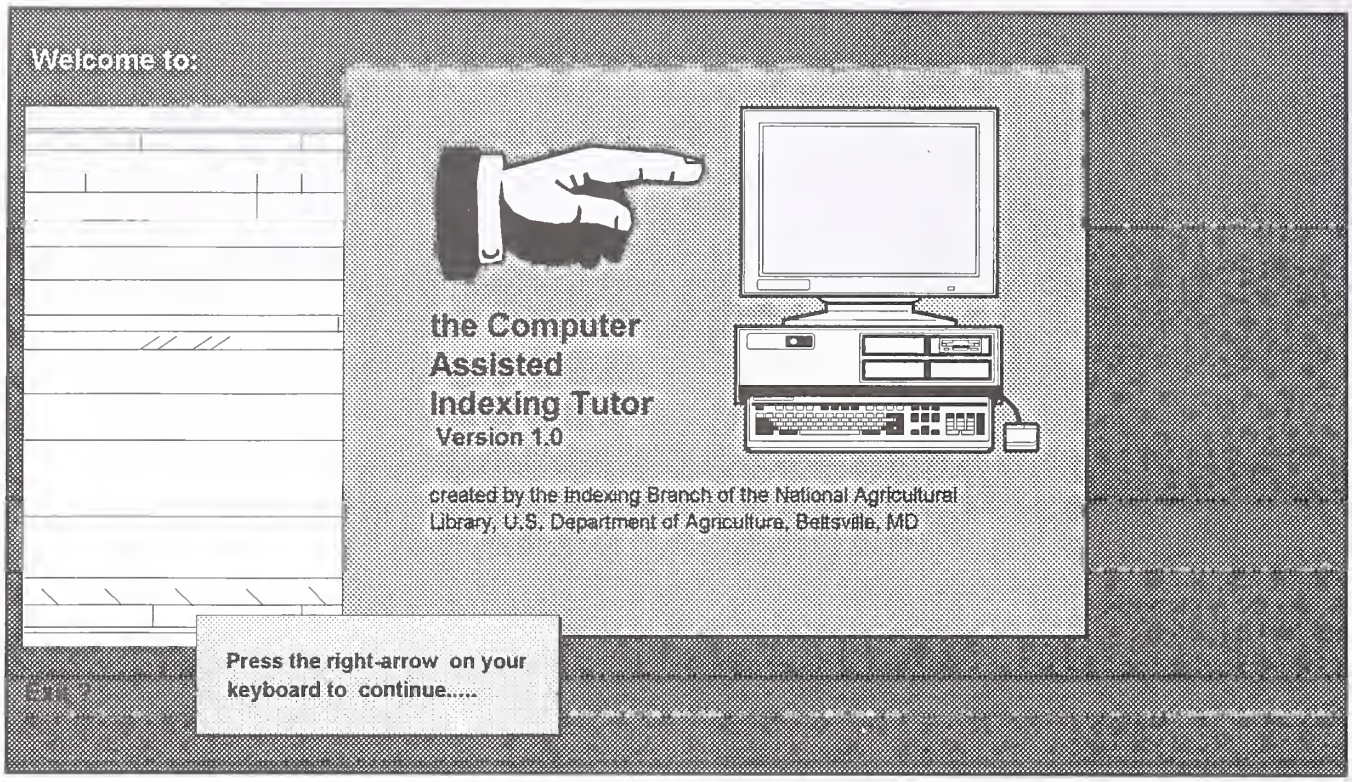
The United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) was established to observe, understand, and predict global change scientifically and to make its research results available for use in policy matters. The 1992 Global Change Data and Information Management Program Plan states that the participating federal agencies will work together and work with academia and the international community; the plan also states that they agree to make it as easy as possible for researchers and others to access and use global change data and information.

The Global Change Data Management Working Group, which is a working group of the Subcommittee on Global Change Research (SGCR) under the Committee on Environment and Natural Research (CENRR), defined the construction of the Global Change Data and Information System (GCDIS) in the GCDIS Implementation Plan. The plan states that the agencies will identify the vast array of data and information based on the highest priority areas of interest, and will design and implement data and information services adequate to support the full breadth of the USGCRP.

To start this process, the **Global Change Data Management Working Group** agencies have initiated several pilot projects intended to broaden the scope of the GCDIS. One of these pilot projects is Global Change-Assisted Search for Knowledge (GC-ASK). A fundamental concept behind GC-ASK is to develop a prototype system that links databases

(See GC-ASK, on page 5)

Additional Features in This Issue:



"cait's" opening screen

("cait," from page 1)

The expected benefits are:

- reduced time required for novice indexers to achieve journeyman level
- reduced time investment of experienced indexers in the training of novices
- increased productivity
- increased consistency and quality of the AGRICOLA database
- opportunities for other NAL staff, outside of the Indexing Branch, to learn more about indexing with greater ease
- updating the existing NAL indexing manual
- creation of an "online" indexing manual as a reference tool
- transformation of existing printed indexing tools into electronic publications
- simultaneous development of an indexing technician training program

Although "cait" will be used to guide and instruct novices for the bulk of their training, novice indexers will be assigned to an experienced indexer or "mentor" with whom they can discuss specific problems or more complex issues that are not covered in "cait's" basic training.

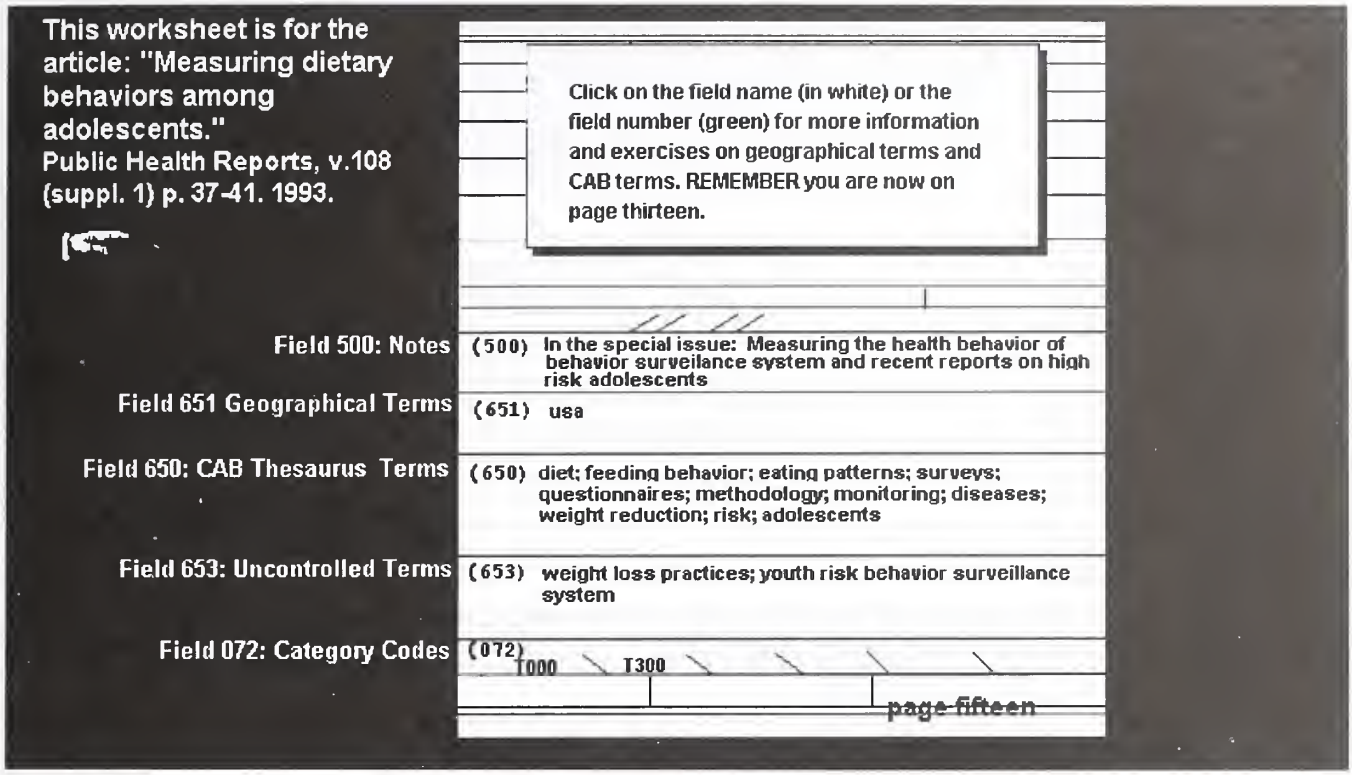
"cait" is divided into four sections, with 4 to 10 chapters within each section. The first section, "Introduction and Orientation," offers general information on the use of the program, its organization and content; an overview of the functions and responsibilities of NAL and the Indexing Branch; and the various computer systems that are used in Indexing and throughout NAL to create and provide access to AGRICOLA.

When completed, the second section, "Descriptive Indexing," will provide instruction on the management and processing of documents and the correct entry of data into the nine descriptive fields. Because the Indexing Branch's most immediate need is for training in subject indexing, development of this section has been postponed. It is estimated that work on this section will begin in the late Fall of 1995.

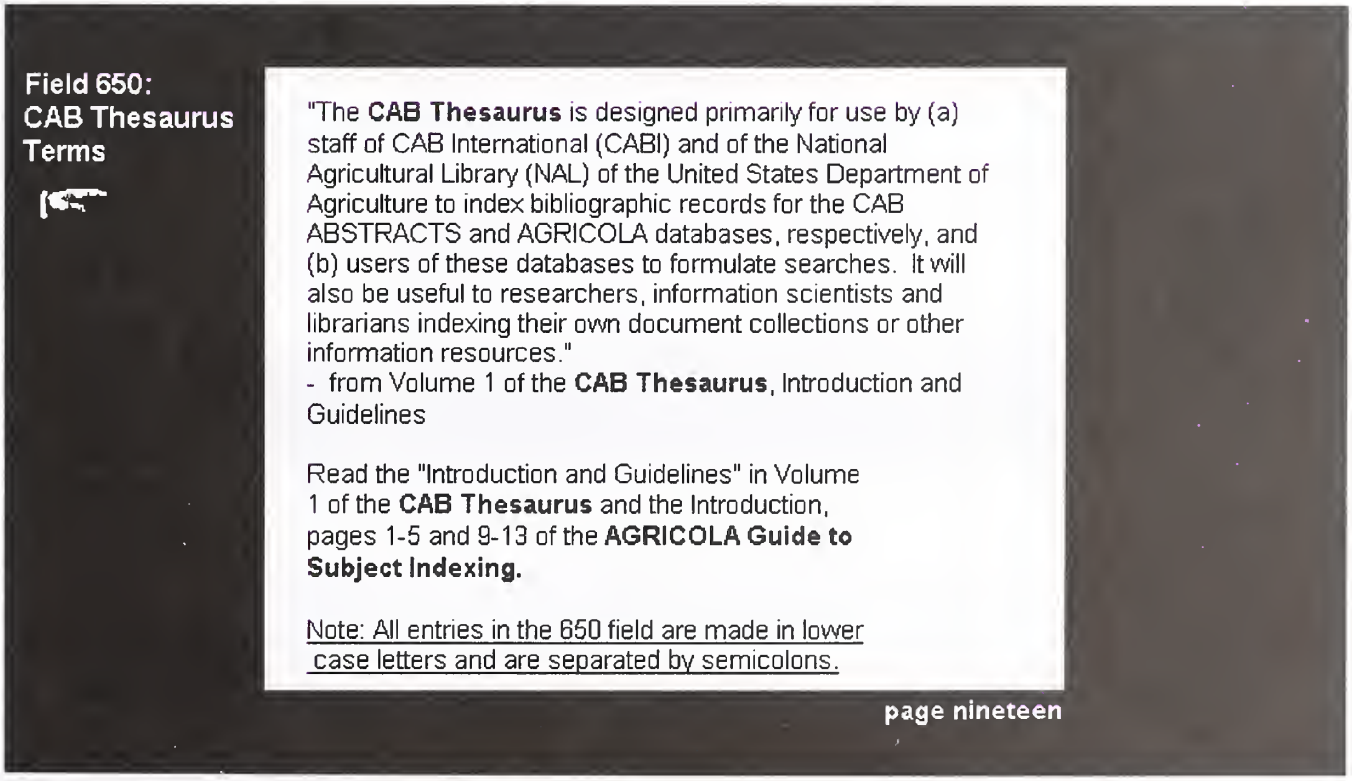
The third section, "Subject Indexing" describes the AGRICOLA database and MARC format. It directs novice indexers to existing information sources and guides them through the selection and application of CAB Thesaurus terms, AGRICOLA Subject Category Codes, uncontrolled terms, geographic terms, and notes. To illustrate the concepts and policies that are fundamental to the indexing process, numerous exercises have been created, most based upon actual AGRICOLA records. Some of the exercise questions are answered on screen. Here, users are given immediate feedback on their answers and have access to related reference materials through hypertext. The remaining questions are completed on NAL indexing worksheets to simulate actual indexing procedures.

Hypertext can also be used to access the Glossary, which defines and gives "nice-to-know" information for the

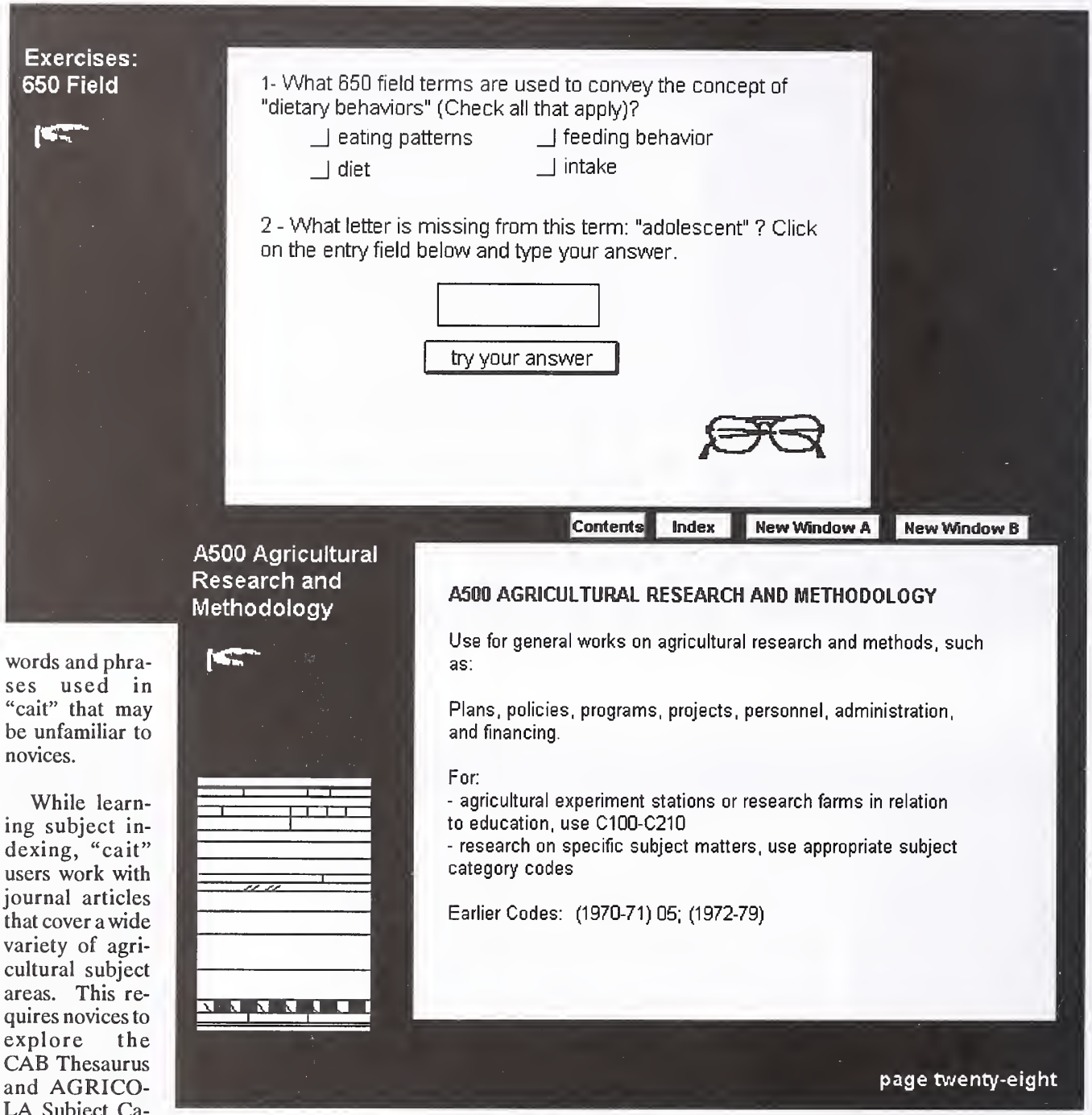
(continued on page 4)



"cait" screen showing sample NAL indexing worksheet with sample subject indexing.



Information on CAB Thesaurus in "cait."



(Top) Sample exercises in "cait," and (above) sample page from category codes.

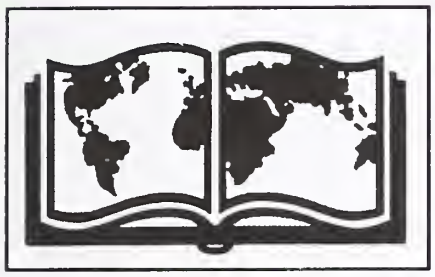
words and phrases used in "cait" that may be unfamiliar to novices.

While learning subject indexing, "cait" users work with journal articles that cover a wide variety of agricultural subject areas. This requires novices to explore the CAB Thesaurus and AGRICOLA Subject Category Codes, and expand their overall familiarity with these two key working tools in areas outside their subject of expertise. Eventually the Indexing Branch hopes to develop groups of subject-specialized exercises based upon specific areas of agriculture. After completing the general group of articles in "cait," novices would work on articles in their particular area of subject expertise to gain additional insight on the use of terms and codes pertinent to their field.

Among the resources that will be provided in the fourth section are electronic versions of the key reference materials used by NAL indexers. These include: *The AGRICOLA Subject Category Codes with Scope Notes*; *AGRICOLA - Guide to Subject Indexing*; and *500 Notes: A Guide to Writing Notes Field Annotations*. The *Subject Category Codes* is the first of these references to be converted to an electronic format. Its appearance and use is very similar to and consistent with "cait's." Its extensive use of hypertext facilitates movement through the document. These electronic references will

(See "cait" in box, bottom of page 5)

Global Change Data & Information System; Assisted Search for Knowledge



The GC-ASK logo.

(GC-ASK, from page 1)

diverse in format and content over the INTERNET, while enabling users with different skills, needs, and access methods, to obtain relevant information from these databases, by using natural language inquiry and a common user interface.

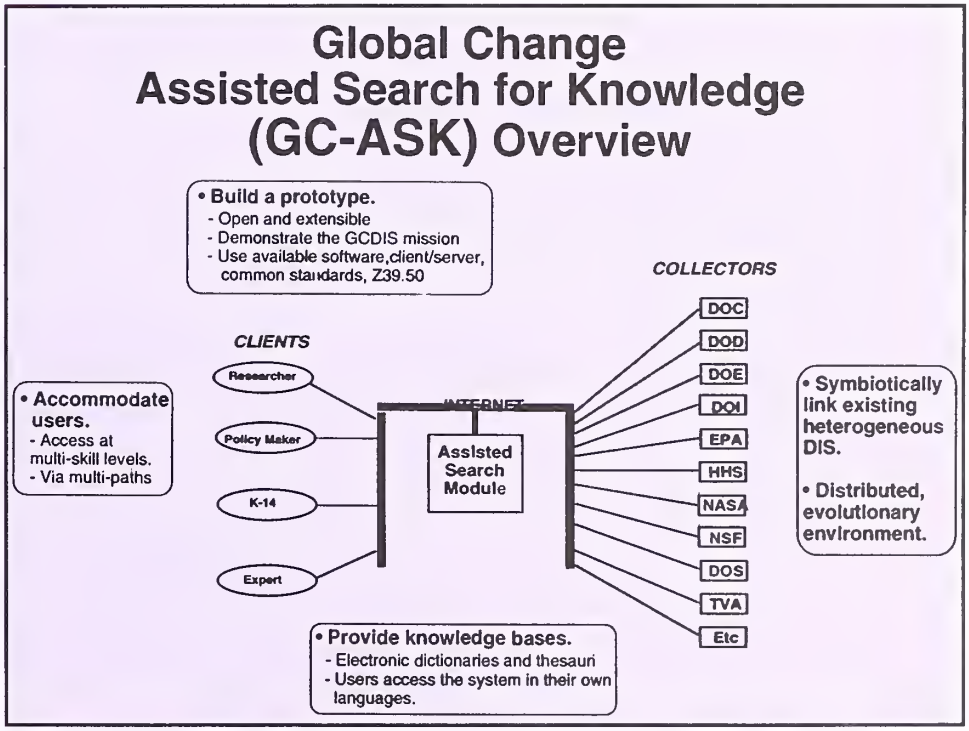
Global Change Data Management Working Group participants are Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce (NOAA); Department of Defense; Department of Energy; Department of Interior (USGS); Environmental Protection Agency; NASA; National Science Foundation; Department of State; and Smithsonian.

The Industry Team consists of ConQuest Software, Inc., Columbia, MD, text information management technology; E-Systems, Inc., Dallas, TX, high technology developer and producer of information-based electronics systems; Infrastructures for Information, Inc., development company specializing in SGML driven database systems, Toronto, Canada; WAIS, Inc., provides interactive multimedia publishing systems and services for delivery of information over networks; Genasys II for the GIS software.

The GC-ASK Project Plan calls for the development of four prototypes to be delivered over the next twelve months. The first of these prototypes was delivered January 10, 1995.

Prototype #1, a software testbed, demonstrates the key principles that are the essential technical foundation for continued successful development. It includes the ability to enter a single command line query via the client software which searches multiple databases over Internet, and provides a single merged response. The success of Prototype #1 delivery is the baseline for providing increasing support to a broad cross section of users who are concerned with access and analysis of Global Change data.

In addition, a **User Concept of Operation** is developing and will be



("cait" from page 4)

also prove useful to experienced indexers who want to move to a more computer-based indexing environment. Conversion of these resources should be completed by Fall 1995.

In addition to completing the section on descriptive indexing and transforming printed resources to electronic form, the Indexing Branch plans to develop groups of exercises based upon specific areas of agriculture. This would enable novices using "cait" to work on articles in areas of their subject expertise to gain additional insight on the use of terms and codes pertinent to their fields.

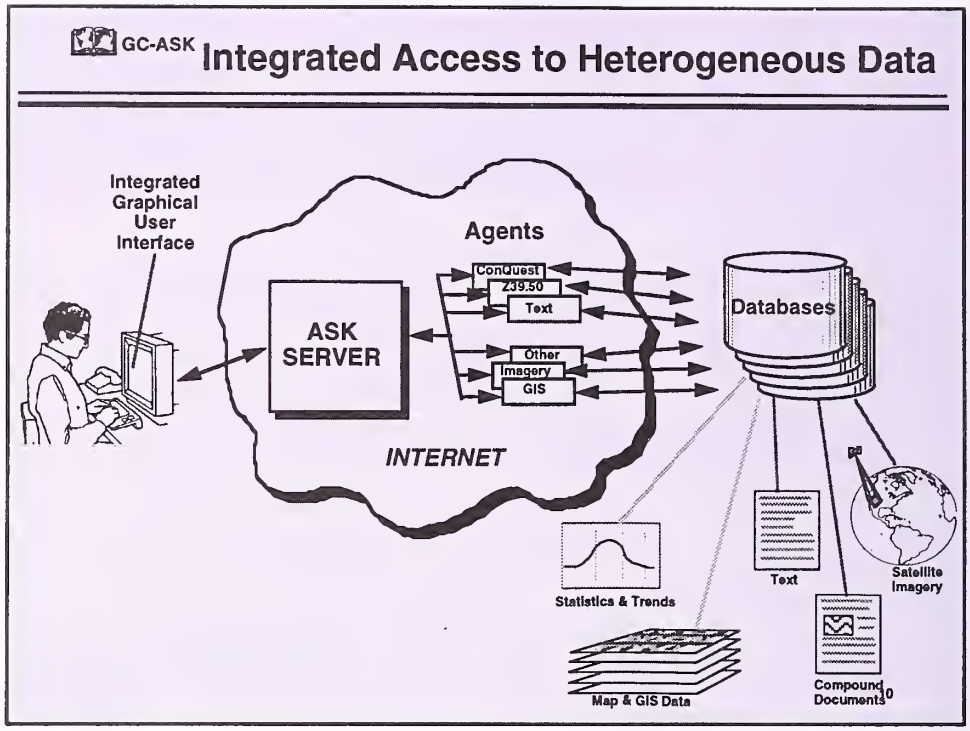
During its development, "cait" has been evaluated by NAL indexers and visitors. In the Spring of 1995, "cait" will be used for actual novice indexer training for the first time.

reviewed at each stage of development by the GC-ASK Users Working Group. This Group represents experts of the identified user categories, within the GCDIS mission statement and provides a mechanism to assess user needs for enhanced system development. These experts include: researchers, policymakers, educators, computer scientists, librarians, museum curators, etc.

Prototype #2 was delivered in April 1995. Prototype #2 added a Graphical User Interface, that is Z39.50 compliant and contains additional knowledge bases [Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC), for example]; it was available for Earth Day on the Mall in Washington, DC.

Prototype #3 will be available on July 10, 1995. Prototype #3 will add a Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Geographical Information System (GIS) capability, additional GUI'S for multiple user classes, additional knowledge bases [for example, National Institute of Health's Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) and NASA Thesaurus], a consistent data presentation model, and non-native (non-ConQuest) search engines to demonstrate the capability to link to and effectively utilize the functionality of existing search engines of participating agencies.

Prototype #4 will be available on October 10, 1995. Prototype #4 will add the ability to manage metadata and source selection using a knowledge base for simultaneous information access across multiple databases, including non-native (non-ConQuest) search engines, and includes retrospective searching, real-time profiling, and on-disk (CD-ROM) product searching.



Program Managment for the GC-ASK project is provided by USDA's National Agricultural Library, Roberta Y. Rand, Information Systems Division.

For access to GC-ASK over Internet, URL:

http://ask.gcdis.usgcrp.gov

For questions and discussion—email:

ASK@circles.org

Subscription procedure: To subscribe, email to:

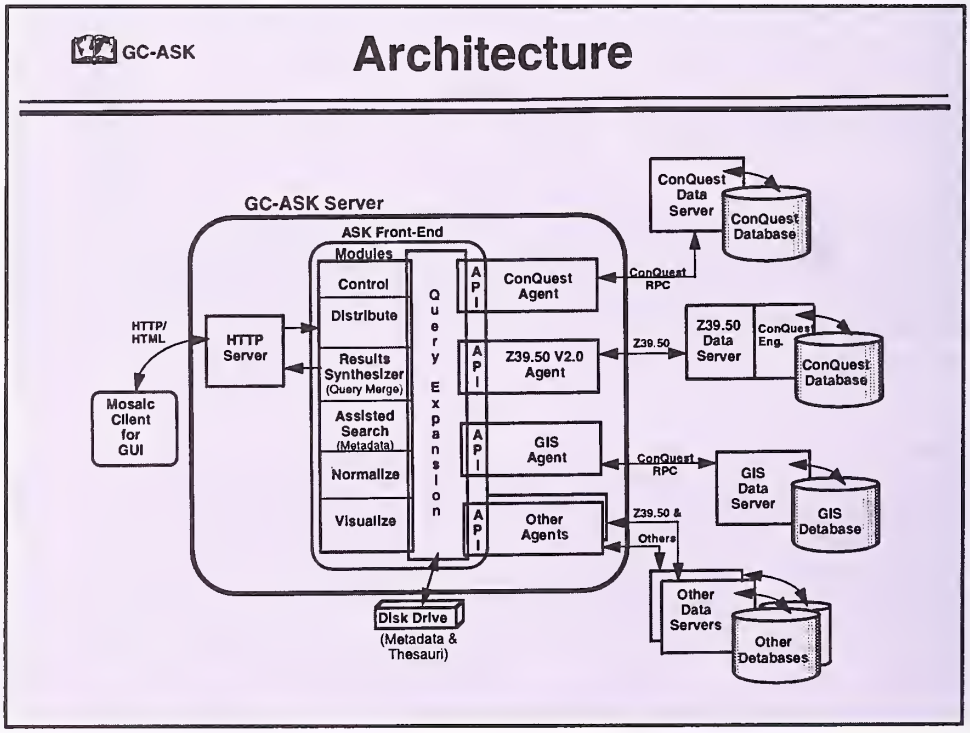
majordomo@circles.org

No subject necessary.

First line of message body should read:

subscribe ASK

You should immediately receive a response from majordomo.



Global Change – Assisted Search for Knowledge (GC-ASK): Excerpts from the Executive Summary

The Global Change Data and Information Management Plan, published in 1992, defines the implementation of a Global Change Data and Information System (GCDIS) that will design and implement data and information services adequate to support the full breadth of the United States Global Change Research Program. The Global Change Assisted Search for Knowledge (GC-ASK) prototype program now being implemented is the second of a series of incremental developments to provide the global change community with a comprehensive set of tools for accessing and exploiting diverse, distributed databases via the Internet. It builds upon the results of the thesaurus pilot project, which provided a proof-of-concept for comprehensive searching of text databases. GC-ASK will provide a Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) - based foundation for further development within and among global change participating agencies.

Concept: The GC-ASK system will be open and extensible, facilitate incremental exploitation of technology advances, adhere to common standards, and be accessible via the World Wide Web over the Internet. The major objective is to link the services of existing heterogeneous data and information resources in a distributed, evolutionary environment. It is intended to complement, and not to duplicate or conflict with, existing systems. GC-ASK will accommodate the needs of a broad range of users by providing access at multi-skill levels, via multi-paths. It will provide extensive knowledge bases of electronically published dictionaries and thesauri to enable users to query the system using their own language. It will add a capability to query geographically referenced data and information, including graphics and imagery, in addition to text. These functionalities will be developed through a series of four prototypes, each adding greater functionality and service to the user.

Users Group: An essential element of the program is maximum involvement of users throughout the development process. To this end, a users group was formed early in the program, which consists of experts representing each of the user classes. The users group evaluates the user aspects of each prototype, reports on their findings and results, and provides direct input to the development process.

Functional Description: GC-ASK is being designed for multiple user classes including students (kindergarten through high school), researchers, policy-makers, and the general public. The GC-ASK client-server system will accept natural language queries and search multiple databases over the Internet. These searches will produce relevance ranked results, with performance beyond Boolean or statistical search systems. The GC-ASK implementation concept includes "meta-searching" for source selection, i.e., determining where to route queries for best results. Full text data may be indexed in ConQuest and hyperlinked to imagery or other objects. GC-ASK will comply with Z39.50 protocols and include multiple knowledge bases (thesauri). A Geographic Information System (GIS) capability will be incorporated to aid in accessing geospatial data including imagery. It will also access databases using non-native search engines, and will have retrospective searching, real-time profiling, and on-disk (CD-ROM) product searching.

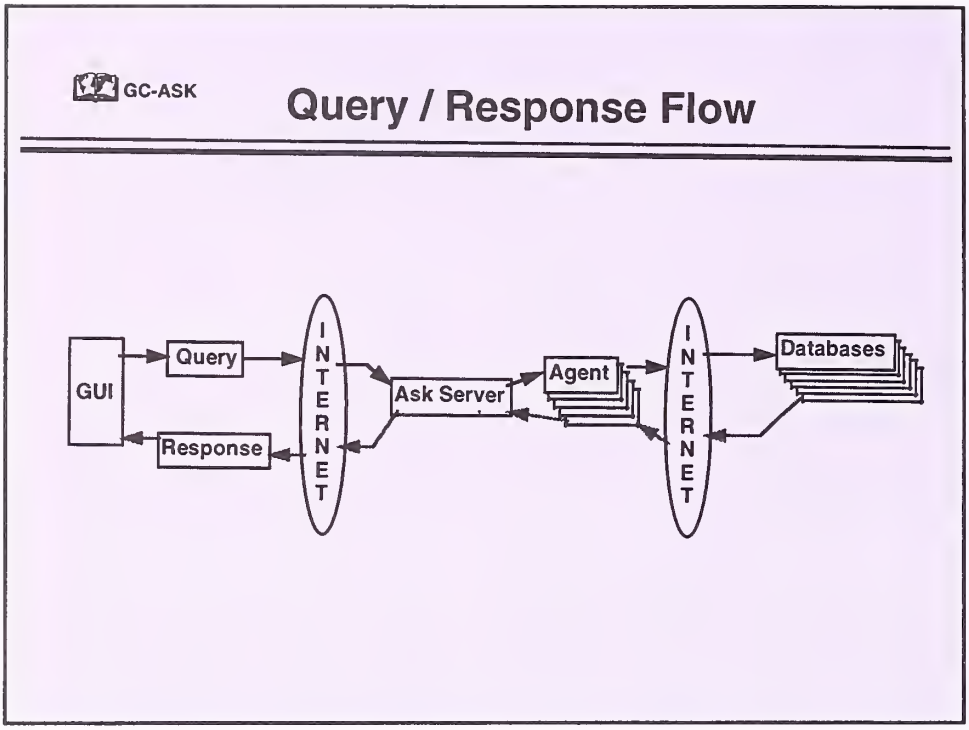
System Architecture: The system architecture of the GC-ASK program is a client/server model. There are multiple clients and servers that are both interconnected and layered. The users see a "single" server. Behind the server is a layered set of client/server processes that transform the users' queries and requests into actions for the search and support agents. These agents perform the assisted search and report the results back.

Future Implementation: The program structure advocated by the IWG is one of agency collaboration. While the initial contract is being administered by NASA, funding was contributed by NASA, NSF and the other IWG participating agencies. The program is being managed by Roberta Rand of the U.S. National Agricultural Library on behalf of the IWG. The architecture is designed to enable the project to continue beyond the current prototype development. Participating government agencies and private organizations can license the GC-ASK server technology and implement their own information system, which then becomes "connected" to the GC-ASK network. Some participating agencies are already moving forward with their own information systems projects. The GC-ASK program, therefore, is of unknown and unlimited scope, which will be determined by its own success.

While the initial focus and driving objectives of GC-ASK were determined by USGCRP, it is expected that GC-ASK will provide an infrastructure suitable for other Government and commercial information systems which are connected via the Internet or similar networks. This includes activities revolving around GILS (Government Information Locator System) and the digital libraries research initiatives. A world-wide multi-lingual system is envisioned as the ultimate GC-ASK architecture. The systems approach being implemented in GC-ASK is distinctly open and standards-based, making it easily adaptable to other public and private communities as well.

Additional Information: This "Executive Summary" is the first section of a more detailed system description, but is also available as a stand-alone document. Both versions are available in hard copy and soft copy (FTP) by contacting:

ConQuest Software, Inc.
(ATTN: Cheri Pender), Suite 800
10440 Little Patuxent Parkway
Columbia, MD 21044
Phone: (410) 740-8800
Fax (410) 740-8810
e-mail: cheri_pender@cq.com.



For additional information contact:
Roberta Y. Rand
Information Systems Division
Room 013
National Agricultural Library
USDA, ARS
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

Telephone: (301) 504-6684
TTY: (301) 504-6856
Fax: (301) 504-7473
Internet: rrand@nalusda.gov

Related Global Change Publications

Two new publications by Robbie Rand and others provide in-depth information on NAL and related initiatives dealing with global climate change. They are described briefly here:

"Global Change and the Role of Libraries," *Library Hi Tech*, Volume 13, Numbers 1-2, 1995: Consecutive Issue #49-50, pp. 8-84, (ISSN 0737-8831).

The articles of this issue of *Library Hi Tech* deal with how the federal agencies of the Global Change Data Management Working Group who are coordinating the implementation of the Global Change Data and Information System (GCDIS) and other organizations are working together to address issues concerned with our changing environment. Background articles provide context, by explaining where we've been, where we are now, and where we're planning to go. While 26 persons (3 at NAL: Gary McCone, Janet Wright, and Robbie Rand) are named as contributors, there are really more than 56 contributors—their names are mentioned throughout the articles.

"Special Issue: Making GIS a Part of Library Service." *Information Technology and Libraries*, Volume 14, Number 2, June 1995, (ISSN 0730 9295). A publication of the American Library Association.

All material in *Information Technology and Libraries*, subject to copyright by ALA, may be photocopied for the noncommercial purpose of scientific or educational advancement. Articles include:

- "Introduction: Making GIS a Part of Library Service," by Marilyn Lutz.
- "Digital Spatial Libraries: A Context for Engineering and Library Collaboration" by Kate Beard.
- "Assisted Search for Knowledge (ASK): A Navigational Tool Set to Global Change Data and Information" by Robbie Rand.
- "Accessing Spatial Data Online: Project Alexandria" by Mary Lynette Larsgaard and Larry Carver.
- "The Making of a Standard" by Elizabeth U. Mangan.
- "GIS and Research Libraries: One Perspective" by Nancy M. Cline and Prudence S. Adler.
- "Identifying Issues and Concerns: The University of Connecticuts's MAGIC—A Case Study" by Patrick McGlamery.

User Education at the National Agricultural Library

by Susan L. Stewart
Life and Health Sciences Librarian, University of Nevada, Reno

The idea of enhancing user education at the National Agricultural Library has been seen as a priority for a long time by NAL staff. This is based primarily on the need to keep staff and users current on the many technological changes occurring in libraries generally and NAL specifically. However, additional factors make user education a higher priority for the library.

First, budget cuts make the most efficient use of staff imperative. Second, a survey of remote ARS researchers indicates that they need more information about the library's resources. Third, NAL has been involved in a strategic planning process, and developing a master plan for a user education program is part of that process. Fourth, NAL is constantly upgrading such necessary services and programs as the training of international librarians or implementing its Electronic Information Initiative. Fifth, the Clinton administration's focus on customer service underscores the importance of enhancing user education as a means of marketing the library's services and improving NAL's customer service.

Keith Russell, as Associate Director for Public Services, invited Susan Stewart, Life & Health Sciences Librarian from the University of Nevada, Reno to work on the project at NAL during the spring of 1994. In preparation, Stewart conducted a review of library/bibliographic instruction literature and obtained resource materials on user education programs from the LOEX Clearinghouse for Library Instruction, and other national and research libraries.

Russell also asked NAL staff involved in user education programs to participate in the NAL User Education Task Force. The staff members chosen were Tim Allen, Information Centers; Kathie Beane, DC Reference Center; Peggy Beavers, ARS Libraries and Researchers; Joyce Bolton, NAL Microcomputer Training; Patricia Krug, Reference and ISIS (NAL's online catalog) Training; Alvetta Pindell, Reference Programs; Deborah Richardson, Educational Programs; and Maria Stransky, Indexing and AGRICOLA Training.

The task force members brainstormed, formulated recommendations, produced revisions, and negotiated the plan almost weekly from March-May, then electronically through September, 1994.

Initially, members listed the reasons user education was important to NAL along with the positive and negative aspects of NAL's current educational efforts. As a part of the process they also checked both NAL's and USDA's mission statements to see how the need for user education fits into each organization's mission. Both statements support the dissemination of agricultural information to all who need it.

Next, the task force formulated and articulated the purpose of the master plan for user education at NAL. It is to enable NAL users to become independent and successful in their use of the library's vast information resources.

The group wanted to have a sense of who the library's users were, and to see what types of programs would be needed, so statistics from the most recent fiscal years were gathered. In general, NAL statistics are tabulated based on the user's affiliation or non-affiliation with USDA. Besides USDA personnel, library users ranged from White House staff to individual agricultural producers to students. The statistics showed that non-USDA users accounted for over 57 percent of the library's requests for reference services, directional information, and online searches. They also found an increase of 59 percent in the number of general library tours to foreign visitors from 1992 to 1993. On-site training sessions for all categories of users had tripled between 1991 to 1993.

After finding that the range of NAL users was very broad and that many were not USDA personnel, the task force proposed minimum performance objectives for specific groups of library users to be targeted by the NAL administration. These objectives ranged from ensuring that users have a basic awareness of NAL's mission to their understanding the wide range of access points and services the library has to offer. Prioritized methods of achieving these objectives were also formulated. Levels of instruction, from basic to advanced, were defined with prioritized means of achieving them listed for both on-site and off-site users.

Next, the task force grappled with how to carry out the user education master plan. Ideally, the group thought that combining NAL's various educational functions into a training

section would be the most effective means of carrying out the plan. The task force determined that the functions of the training section would be:

- Set educational priorities with NAL administration to define targeted users more clearly;
- Have an enhanced team responsible for user education;
- Conduct user evaluations and adjust programs as needed;
- Develop and coordinate all training and education equipment;
- Provide general orientation to the library and its services for all staff since NAL has no personnel officer; and
- Cross-train section members to provide reliability in training program offerings.

The members of the task force considered the probability that the formation of a training section would not be possible without a major reorganization of NAL personnel, and that related decisions would need to await further strategic planning. Therefore, they suggested more coordination between the current educational groups with the formation of a User Education Interest Group, which would enhance communications and program goal setting.

The task force also provided cost estimates for implementing the plan including costs for personnel and various educational enhancements. Some of the enhancements suggested included: satellite training capabilities; consistent and clear signs inside and outside NAL; a USDA-specific guide to NAL services; an electronic information kiosk; an NAL Gopher; a plexiglass display for the Beltsville Area Research Center; smaller displays for other USDA agency offices; continuous outreach programs for off-site users including attendance at more subject-specific conferences; outreach to land-grant libraries and USDA field libraries; and public service announcements to enhance people's awareness of NAL's services.

The task force concluded that success of the plan is contingent on support and cooperation from the NAL administration, the other national libraries, the USDA field libraries, and the land-grant libraries.

Since receiving the task force report, Keith Russell has indicated that it is being incorporated into the library's ongoing planning process.

To obtain a copy of the 29-page full report, *Combine, Coordinate, and Enhance: The National Agricultural Library's User Education Master Plan*, send a self-addressed label with the request to:

Public Services Division, Room 203
Attn: User Education Report
National Agricultural Library
USDA, ARS
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

Stewart Led NAL's User Education Task Force

Susan Stewart is the Life & Health Sciences Librarian at the University of Nevada, Reno. In the Spring of 1994 she was on a faculty development leave at NAL for the months of March through May. During that time, she worked with a task force focusing on NAL's user education programs. The task force included NAL staffers Tim Allen, Kathie Beane, Peggy Beavers, Joyce Bolton, Pat Krug, Alvetta Pindell, Deborah Richardson, and Maria Stransky. The goal of the task force was to formulate a Master Plan for NAL User Education.

In June 1994 Susan Stewart completed the report of the task force and returned to NAL to present it to the staff in open forums and to NAL managers. A summary of the report is included in this issue of *ALIN*, pages 9-10.

Susan Stewart has been on the staff at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), since 1977 and has held her current position since 1987. She started her career in libraries in 1976 as a student worker in the reference department of the Washoe County Library in Reno. In her career at UNR, she has headed the Circulation Department, the Interlibrary Loan Department, the Serials Department, and was Instructional Services Librarian. She also headed the Physical Sciences Library in addition to the Life and Health Sciences Library for two years.

photo: J. Swab

Susan Stewart

Personally, Susan Stewart is a papermaker and hiker, who enjoyed the many artistic and outdoor opportunities available in the Washington, D.C. area.

In a message to the NAL staff just before she returned home, Susan Stewart said, "I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the NAL staff who have been so kind to me during my visit here over the past three months. There have been so many wonderful people, it is hard to know where to begin!" After specifically thanking the members of the User Education Task Force and various NAL support staff, she expressed her gratitude for the "opportunity to experience the tail end of the area's worst winter. But most of all to meet all the people and begin to uncover all the vast resources of this amazing place!"

Core Agriculture Literature Project Volumes Published

The following announcements of publication of the third thru fifth volumes in the Core Agriculture Literature Project are mileposts in this major national and international effort to identify and make accessible the most significant of the world's agricultural research and writing. Accomplished with an international team of scholars and researchers through the Albert R. Mann Library at Cornell University with financial support of the National Agricultural Library and others, progress has been made toward the goals of guaranteeing the quality of U.S. agricultural collections and bringing Third World collections up to a level necessary to provide support for education and research. The ultimate goal is to make as much as possible of the material identified in these volumes available to libraries world-wide on CD-ROMs.

The newest volume in the series, *The Contemporary and Historical Literature of Food Science and Human Nutrition*, has just been published. Two other volumes published previously had not been announced in *ALIN* until now; they are: *The Literature of Animal Science and Health* and *The Literature of Soil Science*.

The Contemporary and Historical Literature of Food Science and Human Nutrition

Edited by Jennie L. Brogdon and Wallace C. Olsen

The fifth of a seven-volume series, *The Literature of the Agricultural Sciences*, this book summarizes the development and trends in the published literature of food science and human nutrition over the last twenty-five years. Further, the book delineates the differences and overlaps in knowledge and research between food science and human nutrition.

Two parallel introductory chapters trace the changing concerns of each field, followed by a chapter describing the methodology for determining and ranking the core publications. Jennie L. Brogdon and Wallace C. Olsen used citation analysis and other bibliometric techniques to identify the most important journals, reports series, and monographs for use in the Third World as well as in developed countries. The core monograph list of the most valuable current titles stems from rankings by twenty-six specialists; the list of sixty-four important core journals vital to the academic and research communities demonstrates the strong influence of societies as publishers. Of particular significance is a detailed chapter on the databases of nutrient composition, dietary intake, and food adulteration, written by a scientist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Another chapter offers an update on the most valuable reference books. In conclusion, a medical doctor and a librarian specify the primary historical literature of food science and nutrition worthy of preservation for future scholarship.

Contents of the volume: "Development and Trends in Food Science," by Joseph H. Hotchkiss; "Knowledge and Changing Concerns in Human Nutrition," by Daphne A. Roe; "Determining the Core Publications and Characteristics of Food Science and Human Nutrition Literature," by Jennie Brogdon; "Core Monographs in Food Science and Human Nutrition," by Jennie Brogdon and Wallace C. Olsen; "Primary Journals and Serials," by Jennie Brogdon and Wallace C. Olsen; "Databases of Nutrient Composition, Dietary Intake, and Food Adulteration," by Jean A. T. Pennington; "Reference Update," by Robyn C. Frank; "Primary Historical Literature, 1850-1950," by Jennie Brogdon and Daphne A. Roe.

Jennie L. Brogdon is a former librarian at the National Agricultural Library. Wallace C. Olsen is Research Associate, Albert R. Mann Research Library, Cornell University.

ISBN 0-8014-3096-8, $69.95 Cloth, 304 pp., 1995. See order address at the end of this article.

The Literature of Animal Science and Health

Edited by Wallace C. Oslen

Third in the seven-volume series exploring in-depth the literature of the primary fields of the agricultural sciences, this book analyzes the trends in published literature of animal science and health during the past century with emphasis on the last forty years. It uses citation analysis and other bibliometric techniques to identify the most important journals, report series, and monographs for the developed countries as well as those in the Third World.

An introductory chapter treats the development of animal science in the United States. Another considers the publishing influence of the major animal science societies. A chapter traces the development of statistics and databanks in animal science and their importance in such areas as animal breeding. Specialists then identify worldwide literature patterns and trends and rank the core list of 1,300 most important monographs for use in the Third World and developed countries. Monographs and core journals for the Third World include vital contemporary veterinary science literature.

(See Core Lit on page 27, col. 1)

Dan Glickman U.S. Secretary of Agriculture

USDA photo

Dan Glickman

Dan Glickman was sworn in as the 26th U.S. Secretary of Agriculture on March 30, 1995. Prior to his confirmation, Glickman represented Kansas' 4th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives for 18 years.

During his congressional career, Glickman developed a reputation for being an inquisitive and thoughtful legislator. Whether the issue was fighting for improved airline safety or serving as a chief architect of the last four farm bills, Glickman has been a vocal advocate for the people of Kansas and the country.

As he begins his service as Secretary of Agriculture, Glickman brings with him the experience gained by serving nearly two decades on the House Agriculture Committee, including six years as chairman of the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and its predecessor, the Subcommittee on Wheat, Soybeans, and Feed Grains.

He is widely recognized as a leading spokesman for American agriculture. In addition to his work on farm bills in 1977, 1981, 1985, and 1990, Glickman led the way in areas such as expanding trade in agriculture goods, food safety, and reinventing the USDA. Glickman was the original author of House legislation to streamline and reorganize the USDA.

In recognition of his hard work and leadership, in January 1993 the Speaker of the House appointed Glickman to serve a two-year term as the Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. This appointment made Glickman the first full committee chairman from Kansas in 40 years.

As chairman of the intelligence committee, Glickman pursued policies to "de-mystify" the intelligence community by holding open hearings, pushing the intelligence community to publicly explain its functions in the post-Cold War era, and reducing the number of classified documents. In addition, Glickman launched a major committee investigation into the Aldrich Ames spy case.

Glickman's legal experience and his seat on the Judiciary Committee enabled him to become a leader in the battle to make reasonable reforms in general aviation product liability laws. He also devoted considerable time to finding ways to strengthen lobbying disclosure laws, revamp the administrative law judge corps, and develop effective ways to combat crime. He was the author of a 1987 law that created criminal penalties for violence directed at religious property and practice.

Prior to being elected to Congress in 1976, Glickman served as president of the Wichita, Kansas School Board; was a partner in the law firm of Sargent, Klenda, and Glickman; and served as a trial attorney for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Glickman received his B.A. in history from the University of Michigan and his law degree from The George Washington University. He married Rhoda Yura of Detroit in 1966. They have two children, Jon, 25, and Amy, 22.

Stauber Assumes REE Position

Dr. Karl N. Stauber was nominated by President Clinton as the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics (REE) on April 5, 1995. He was confirmed for the position by the U.S. Senate on May 23, and sworn in on May 24.

He had been serving as the Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics since December, 1994. President Clinton selected Stauber because of his extensive work in developing and funding research projects involving land-grant universities, state experiment stations, and farmer-controlled organizations.

Stauber manages the U.S. Department of Agriculture's science, technology, and education activities relating to food and agriculture. His position at USDA is a new one, created by the recent reorganization of the Department, combining the responsibilities of the former Assistant Secretary of Science and Education with the Assistant Secretary for Economics. Stauber oversees USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, National Agricultural Statis-

USDA photo

Karl Stauber

tics Service, Economic Research Service, and the Agricultural Research Service, of which the National Agricultural Library is a part.

Before his current appointment, Stauber served as the Deputy Under Secretary for Small Community and Rural Development. He oversaw policy and budget development for what were then USDA's Farmers Home Administration, Rural Development Administration, and Rural Electrification Administration.

Prior to joining USDA, Stauber served as the Vice President of the Northwest Area Foundation, a private foundation based in St. Paul, Minnesota, that annually grants approximately $14 million to increase the economic vitality of low-income communities in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa. In that capacity he conceptualized and ran a series of model research efforts for the Northwest Area Foundation in St. Paul. These multi-disciplinary, multi-state research efforts explored value-added agriculture, rural business development, natural resource management, and comparisons of conventional and sustainable agricultural production systems.

In the mid-1980s, Stauber co-founded and ran a venture capital firm that promoted business development throughout the U.S. Between 1978 and 1984, Stauber was the Executive Director of the Needmor Fund, a private foundation based in Toledo, Ohio. Previously, he served as the assistant director of the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation in Winston-Salem, N.C., and held several posts in North Carolina state government.

A native of Statesville, N.C., Stauber received a B.A. in American Studies from the University of North Carolina, a certificate from the program for management development at the Harvard Business School, and a Ph.D. in public policy at the Union Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio. Stauber's ties to USDA are longstanding. His father was born on a Federal Experiment Station in Oklahoma and his grandfather was a career USDA employee.

Vision for the Research, Education, and Economics Mission Area Memo to All REE Staff, May 24, 1995

From Dr. Karl N. Stauber
Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics (REE)
United States Department of Agriculture

I am writing you today to introduce myself and outline some of the challenges and opportunities facing all of us, the employees of the Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area of USDA.... I look forward to serving with you, the employees of NASS, CSREES, ARS, and ERS in this capacity. I need your help in creating a new mission area and in being a highly effective advocate for our work.

Before I talk about the future, let me spend a few lines on the past. I want to thank Floyd Horn for his efforts as Acting Under Secretary. Floyd will continue as the Deputy Under Secretary of REE. Given his extensive background in the physical and biological sciences and my own in the social sciences, Floyd and I form a strong, multi-disciplinary leadership team [See "Horn Appointed to USDA...," *ALIN*, Vol. 20, Nos. 10-12, October-December 1994, p.21]. I also want to thank Dean Plowman [Administrator, Agricultural Research Service] who served as Acting Under Secretary for REE and Acting Assistant Secretary for Science and Education and Keith Collins who served as Acting Assistant Secretary for Economics. The stewardship of all three individuals has done much to ease the transition into our new mission area. Also related to the past, I have enclosed a short biography so you have a sense of my background.

"May you live in interesting times," is an ancient Chinese curse. Well, we do live in interesting times. We can see this as a curse, or an opportunity. I see it as an opportunity. I need your help in making these challenging times an opportunity.

Vision, Challenges, and Opportunities for REE

We must provide world class research, education, and statistics that will enable and empower our internal and external customers to: enhance economic opportunity for farmers, ranchers, and other rural people; have a healthier, better educated citizenry; reduce the risks of consumers and producers; enhance U.S. agricultural global competitiveness; and, protect the natural resource base. All of our research, education, and statistics efforts should focus on these five outcomes. We must work to strengthen and renew the "social contract" between the citizenry and our agencies: they provide us with resources, we provide them with solutions and opportunities.

We are addressing this vision in an environment of flat or declining resources. We are all working in a climate of

increased skepticism about the role of federal agencies and of public support for research and education. We can no longer assume that Congress or the citizenry will support research and education for research and education's sake. We are also in a climate where some within the broader federal research and education community see our work as less rigorous, less "cutting edge."

All of us must work together to increase the quality, relevancy, and recognition of REE's efforts. We should be seen as one of the Federal Government's most important sources of statistical, scientific, and educational innovation. We must develop new, more effective ways of understanding the needs of our internal and external customers, addressing the needs with world class research and statistics, and then extending that new knowledge to the most appropriate end users.

Just as we need to improve our exchanges with our customers, we also need better linkages with our partners in the land-grant universities (LGU), state cooperative extension services, state departments of agriculture, and state agricultural experiment stations. The challenges that face our direct research efforts also apply to our partners. We must successfully address these issues together. Basic research, like the National Research Initiative (NRI), must play a critical role in our direct and partnered research, statistical, and education efforts.

REE is a new mission area, a new organization. It is not simply Economics + Science and Education. A new organization means new ways of working together and new priorities. One of our greatest challenges will be to build the new mission area, effectively utilizing the skill and knowledge of all of us.

Five Priorities for REE

The position of Under Secretary is a great honor. But if one is to succeed in this position, one must focus, focus, focus. Every day brings a host of new crises and choices. In this type of position, it is easy to fall into the habit of only addressing the urgent, and ignoring the important. In an attempt to spend more time on the important, I want to make my priorities clear. In identifying these issues, I am aware that I am passing up many critical issues—issues that may be of great importance to you. My decision to focus on X and not Y should not be taken as an indication that Y is not important. It is a reflection of my desire to make a positive difference in a world of constrained resources, with time being the most constrained.

> We must provide world class research, education, and statistics that will enable and empower our internal and external customers to: enhance economic opportunity for farmers, ranchers, and other rural people; have a healthier, better educated citizenry; reduce the risks of consumers and producers; enhance U.S. agricultural global competitiveness; and, protect the natural resource base. All of our research, education, and statistics efforts should focus on these five outcomes.

While I am articulating these priorities, they reflect the thoughts and suggestions of many USDA employees and external sources. Floyd Horn and I shared in the development of these priorities and we will share their execution.

Priority One—Improving the REE's standing with Congress, the White House, the general public, and the scientific community. My approach to the job of Under Secretary is different than what some may have anticipated. My job is to be the chief advocate for REE and for increased investments in education, statistics, and research related to food, agriculture, and rural development.

I will be working closely with commodity groups, our land-grant partners, state departments of agriculture, general agriculture organizations, and environmental and consumer groups to promote our work. I will largely focus on Congress, the White House, and the general public. Floyd Horn will take the lead with the scientific community. If we are to succeed, we must do a better job of "telling our story," and we have a great story to tell! If our customers do not understand what we do and why we do it, we will fail.

In advocating for REE and our efforts, I will be focusing on the five outcomes mentioned above: enhance economic opportunity for farmers, ranchers, and other rural people; have a healthier, better educated citizenry; reduce the risks of consumers and producers; enhance U.S. global competitiveness; and protect the natural resource base. We must strengthen the social contract between the Federal government and the citizenry, between researchers and educators and our customers. This Administration needs your help rebuilding the social contract—the *defacto* agreement between the citizens and their government, where the citizens give up income (taxes) for benefits to all of society (education, research, and statistics). I need your help delivering on these five outcomes. If you will do your best to deliver the best education, research, publication, accounting, secretarial support, or whatever your assignment; I'll do my best to be REE's and your advocate. That can be our social contract.

Priority Two—Creating a leadership and management culture that requires and rewards outcomes, rather than processes. As discussed above, we are in a period of increasing public skepticism about both research and the federal government. We can use the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and round two of the National Performance Review (NPRII) to move to an outcome orientation. Budget requests for FY 1997 and beyond must articulate, measurable outcomes that reflect the five priorities outlined above. If we are to be successful in the

upcoming budget conflicts, we must be able to identify what we want to accomplish and how we will demonstrate our progress toward those outcomes. This means we must develop a strong, internal assessment capacity. In fact, progress toward a measurable goal is a reasonable question. Since we are the research leaders for USDA, we should lead in this area!

Priority Three—Creating a new culture that supports multi-discipline approaches to research, statistics, and education in a multi-cultural environment. REE is a new organization. In creating REE, Congress intentionally brought together several different approaches to rationally address the pressing issues being faced by the food and agriculture sectors and many rural areas. When appropriate, education and research endeavors should cross the disciplinary perspectives of sciences. I look to the leaders of the four REE agencies to work together to recommend criteria for determining when multi-disciplinary work is and is not most appropriate.

REE agencies have made important progress in diversifying our workforce. Diversity is a major objective of this Administration. If we are to meet the needs of our customers adequately, we must be as diverse as they are. I strongly endorse the Department's position on increasing the diversity of our workforce and leadership.

Priority Four—Strengthening the strategic partnership between REE and the land-grant community. The [land-grant universities] LGUs are our most significant partners.

The 1995 Farm Bill proposes several changes that will strengthen the partnership. First, we propose the creation of a joint Agriculture Research Facilities Study Commission (ARPSC) that will examine the strategic building and large scale equipment needs of the public agricultural research community. This effort will bring together representatives of the REE agencies, LGU bodies, farm and commodity groups, and environmental and consumer organizations. Second, the Farm Bill package proposes the restructuring of the current advisory committee structure. The proposed structure will include one national and four regional committees with a membership representing the same groups as with the ARFSC. The new advisory committees will make recommendations to the REE Administrators and the Under Secretary's Office on what research and education should be done at USDA or its funded partners. Each advisory committee will also have a technical review committee to insure external, peer review of all research programs.

Priority Five—Improving operating and strategic coordination within REE and between REE and its internal USDA customers. Coordination within USDA and REE is a major challenge. We must meet the needs of our internal customers if we are to succeed. Many of our internal customers do not understand how we operate and how our statistical, research, and education efforts can and cannot serve them. We must take responsibility for educating our customers.

As part of this Administration's Farm Bill proposal, we are calling for the creation of the USDA Research, Education, and Extension Policy Council (REEPC). The Council will include representatives from all mission areas in USDA and the REE Administrators. REEPC will assist the Office of Under Secretary for REE in setting programmatic priorities and coordination efforts. In the next few days, I will ask Dan Glickman to create the Council by Secretarial Proclamation so that it can begin operation prior to legislative action. As part of our implementation of GPRA, a team from REE agencies will develop a strategic REE plan for each mission area over the next six months. These plans will be brief, outcome oriented, and demonstrate how resources and responsibilities will be shared. The plans will focus on strategy, not tactics. The plans will be presented to the mission areas and REEPC for review.

The coordinating, cross agency functions that already exist, like integrated Pest Management, water quality and global climate change will operate through and under the Council. This will help to insure cross-departmental coordination. I expect each coordinating effort to produce a strategic plan (similar to those discussed above) in the next six months.

Within REE, the National Agricultural Library and the National Arboretum are unique organizations. While they are part of ARS, they serve functions that cut across the entire mission area. Given their special status, I anticipate both will participate in REEPC activities, although they will remain in the ARS budget.

We also have major coordinating roles related to management and central services. Jane Giles and her team have already made significant progress in creating the Administrative and Financial Management division (AFM). AFM must support the Office of Under Secretary and the Agency Administrators by providing timely, accurate, and independent information and analysis. To date, we have left budgeting functions decentralized. I may want to revisit this in the next few months.

AFM is also responsible for seeing that core supporting services like procurement and personnel are efficient and effective. Pursuant to NPR [National Performance Review], I am encouraging AFM to provide the maximum flexibility and minimum regulations to our employees in fulfilling their assigned responsibilities. Too often we write the rules for the few who want to abuse the system not the vast majority who want to do a first rate job. I want us to reverse this!

Conclusion. I hope to meet all of you during my tenure in this position. Given the time I need to spend in Washington, defending and promoting our programs, this may be impossible. But even if we do not meet face to face, I want to write periodically to all REE employees, outlining our progress and our continuing challenges. Challenging times require challenging efforts. We must work together to increase the quality, relevancy, and recognition of REE's important efforts. I look forward to working with you.

Eaton Receives Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award

Nancy L. Eaton, Dean of Library Services at Iowa State University of Science and Technology in Ames, is the 1995 recipient of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award presented by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), and the Association for Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS).

The award, $2,000 and a citation, recognizes outstanding achievement, including risk-tasking, by academic librarians that have contributed significantly to improvements in library automation, management and/or development or research. A gold giraffe pin, donated by The Faxon Company and designed by Tiffany's, is presented to recognize the "sticking your neck out" aspect of this award.

"Ms. Eaton was chosen because of her leadership locally and nationally and for her successful efforts in diversifying the workplace," said Thomas W. Leonhardt, chair of the Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award Committee. "She is the author of the National Agricultural Text Digitizing Project financial report and has served on the OCLC Users Council and Executive Board since 1989."

Nancy Eaton has also had a long and beneficial association with the National Agricultural Library. Beginning in 1986, she provided early leadership in the National Agricultural Text Digitizing Program (NATDP), a cooperative program of NAL and the land-grant university libraries, and served as NATDP's first project manager. In 1988, she became the first president of USAIN, the United States Agricultural Information Network. In 1989, she initiated what was to become the Midwest Agricultural Biotechnology

photo: J. Swab

Nancy Eaton

Information Center, a pilot project for which she obtained partial funding from Congress, and a prototype for similar centers. Currently, she is a leader in providing land-grant library cooperation with NAL in the formation of AgNIC, the Agriculture Network Information Center, and serves on its steering committee. She is also a task force leader for efforts to develop database/directory activities and the distributed reference assistance portion of AgNIC.

Eaton's 27-year career has included service as Director of Libraries, and Director of Libraries and Media Services at the University of Vermont in Burlington; Automation Librarian, Catalog Librarian, Supervisor of the MARC Cataloging Unit, and Assistant to the University Librarian at the University of Texas at Austin.

She has been active in the American Library Association (ALA), OCLC, the Center for Research Libraries and several other organizations.

Eaton has a bachelor's degree from Stanford University, Palo Alto, Calif., and a master's degree in library science from the University of Texas at Austin.

The award presentation was scheduled for Monday, June 26, at the ALCTS Awards during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

ACRL, LAMA, LITA and ALCTS are divisions of the American Library Association.

—"ALA News" & J. Swab

Bell and Rhodes Receive Oberly Award

George H. Bell, Science Reference Librarian at Arizona State University in Tempe, and Diane B. Rhodes, Life Sciences Librarian at Arizona State, are the 1995 recipients of the Oberly Award for Bibliography in the Agricultural Sciences presented by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).

The award is given biennially in odd-numbered years and includes a cash prize and citation donated by the Oberly Endowment Fund. It recognizes the best English language bibliography in the field of agriculture or a related science in the preceding two-year period.

Bell and Rhodes were recognized for their book, *A Guide to the Zoological Literature: The Animal Kingdom*, an in-depth compilation of annotated citations to the literature of zoology.

"The Oberly Committee was highly impressed by the quality of this title and by the amount of loving care that appeared to have gone into its creation," said Mike Haddock, chair of the Oberly Award Committee. "The compilers of the bibliography personally examined and provided evaluative annotations for each of the 1,650 titles included. This is a very well-crafted and executed bibliography."

Bell has served as Acting Head of the Science Reference Department, and Information Research and Support Services Librarian at Arizona State University, and Manager of the Pharmaceutical Research Library and Pharmaceutical Librarian/Information

Specialist at the William H. Rorer Company in Horsham, Pa. He has a bachelor's degree from William Paterson College, Wayne, N.J., and a master's degree in library science from the Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Rhodes has held positions as Catalog Librarian at Arizona State University, Rare Books Cataloger at Juanita College in Huntington, Pa., and Monograph Cataloger at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has as bachelor's degree from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., and a master's degree in library science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

The award presentation was scheduled for Monday, June 26, at the ACRL Science and Technology Section program during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

ACRL is a division of the American Library Association.

—"ALA News"

Staff Update

Russell Named NAL Deputy Director

The Director of the National Agricultural Library, Pamela Q.J. André, has announced the selection of Keith W. Russell to fill the newly created position of Deputy Director, NAL. Russell had been Associate Director for NAL's Public Services Division since 1984.

In announcing Russell's selection, André said "I have worked with Keith for over 10 years and have always been impressed with his abilities and his enthusiasm. He is extremely well qualified to help lead the library."

In his new position, Russell will assist André in the overall management of NAL, one of three national libraries of the United States and the largest agricultural library in the world, with over 2 million volumes in its collection.

As NAL's Associate Director for Public Services, Russell was responsible for a staff of 90 and more than 50 contractors and cooperators who provide document delivery, reference, information center and educational services to USDA and the nation. In this position he has guided NAL's public services cooperation with other federal libraries and organizations, including the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, the Smithsonian Institution Libraries, the National Technical Information Service and land-grant university libraries throughout the U.S.

Before joining NAL, Russell was a Program Associate for the Council on Library Resources, located in Washington, D.C. Prior to that he was the head of the University of Arizona's Science-Engineering Library; Assistant to the University of Texas' Staff and Fiscal Librarian; Research Librarian at the Houston Academy of Medicine—Texas Medical Center Library (HAM-TMCL); and head of the Serials Department at HAM-TMCL. His work experience also includes teaching science and coaching cross-country and track in the Illinois school system, and service in the U.S. Navy.

A native of Bloomington, Illinois, Russell has master's degrees in library science and botany from the University of Illinois and a bachelor's degree in biology from Illinois State University. He is active in the Association of College and Research Libraries and currently serves on its Planning Committee. He is also active in the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC). He has written and spoken extensively on library subjects.

photo: J. Swab

Keith Russell

McCone Named Associate Director for Automation

In April, Pamela André, Director of the National Agricultural Library, announced the selection of Gary McCone as NAL's new Associate Director for Automation.

In his new position, McCone is responsible for the library's extensive efforts to adapt electronic information management technology to NAL uses.

"Since NAL has committed to becoming an 'electronic library,' this is a crucial activity area for NAL," André said. "Over the years, I have worked with Gary in a number of capacities related to automation and have come to greatly respect his knowledge and initiative. He will do an excellent job for the library."

McCone has over 18 years of experience with NAL and the Library of Congress in library automation, bibliographic and scientific databases, and standards development. The focus of his career for the past several years has been on exploring applications for optical storage at NAL and throughout the library community. A prime responsibility for McCone as NAL Associate Director is maintaining and developing the online and CD-ROM versions of the library's AGRICOLA bibliographic database. He also is responsible for NAL's program of producing full-text and multimedia CD-ROMs containing portions of the NAL collection of agricultural materials, the largest in the world.

A native of Wyoming, McCone has master's degrees in both Chinese and Library Science from the University of Arizona. He is a member of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) Standards Development Committee and the American Library Association. He has spoken extensively on the application of new technology to information management at national and international conferences.

McCone's wife, Phuong Anh, is a native of Vietnam. The McCones' have two children and live in Columbia, Maryland.

photo: D. Starr

Gary McCone

Sinn Is Associate Director for Technical Services

Pamela Q.J. André, Director of the National Agricultural Library, has announced the selection of Sally Sinn as NAL's Associate Director for Technical Services, effective June 12.

photo: J. Swab

Sally Sinn

"Sally comes to NAL from the National Library of Medicine, another of the U.S. national libraries," André said. "At NLM she developed an outstanding reputation within the library community, and we are pleased to be able to put her experience and expertise to work for NAL."

As NAL's Associate Director for Technical Services, Sinn heads a staff of over 90 who acquire, catalog, and index agricultural literature from throughout the world.

Sinn's career began in 1973 when she joined NLM as a library associate. Subsequently, she rose steadily at NLM, to cataloger and systems librarian, Assistant Head of NLM's Cataloging Section, then Acting Head of that section, and, finally, to Deputy Chief of NLM's Technical Services Division, a position she held from 1986 until joining NAL.

At NLM she played a key role in converting the library's card catalog into an online catalog of over 775,000 records available on the Internet. She also guided NLM's efforts to convert its manual shelflist to machine-readable form, led the design and development of the first system at NLM for creating cataloging records online, and directed the expansion of NLM's cataloging data in MARC format. As NLM's Technical Services Deputy Chief, she was credited with playing a key role in the ongoing automation program at the library. In 1988, she was awarded the National Institutes of Health Merit Award "for exceptional contributions to the development of systems that improve NLM's ability to create and distribute high quality bibliographic data for the biomedical literature."

Sinn has a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a master's in library science from the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science.

Feidt Retires

photo: D. Starr

Bill Feidt

After more than 26 years of service at the National Agricultural Library, William (Bill) Feidt retired in April 1995. He joined the NAL staff as a library technician in Serials in 1968. Thereafter, he held a variety of positions in several sections of the Library, including Acquisitions where he was promoted to Technical Information Specialist; the Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC), where he was database manager for the FNIC contributions to AGRICOLA; and the administrative offices of NAL. He joined what is now the Information Systems Division (ISD) in 1984 as database manager for AGRICOLA, and became Head of the Library Automation Branch in 1985, a position he held until his retirement.

During the last year or so of his tenure with NAL, Feidt concentrated on developing the NAL network and other networking activity, developing the NAL gopher, and Internet-related activities. He was also a co-developer and the technical adviser of NAL's electronic bulletin board system, ALF (Agricultural Library Forum), first announced in *ALIN* in October 1988.

As Head of NAL's Library Automation Branch, he managed programs and supervised staff responsible for all of NAL's computer systems, both hardware and software, including ISIS (Integrated System for Information Services). These systems went through upgrades and various hardware and numerous software changes during the time. The Branch also supports nearly three hundred microcomputer workstations throughout the Library and coordinates with their users, and is responsible for systems analysis for both existing and new computer systems.

In his leisure time Mr. Feidt is also interested in microcomputing as a hobby. In addition he is an extra-class amateur radio operator.

—Joseph N. Swab

Hood Retires

photo: J. Swab

Martha Hood

Martha W. Hood, Head of the Thesaurus Management Section in the Indexing Branch of NAL, retired on April 30 after more than 30 years service with USDA.

Although born in New Orleans, Ms. Hood moved to the Maryland area and abroad with her family as a child, and ended up in the neighborhood of the Beltsville Agriculture Research Center, graduating from High Point High School in 1961. Four years later, she was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Maryland—College Park with a B.S. in microbiology. Later, she returned to the University of Maryland and received her M.L.S. from the College of Library and Information Services in 1987. There she also became a member of Beta Phi Mu.

Early in her career, Ms. Hood worked in the Agricultural Research Service on taxonomy of nematode parasites of domestic ruminants, during which time she co-authored a dozen papers. She spent the next 13 years as an indexer for the Index-Catalogue of Medical and Veterinary Zoology.

After coming to NAL as a member of the Indexing Branch staff in 1984, she was promoted in 1985 to serve as the liaison to FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and CAB International (formerly Commonwealth Agriculture Bureaux) for thesaurus activities. She served as the English language authority at the AGROVOC Update meetings. Ms. Hood reported, "One of the most gratifying things about the job was the relationships with the FAO staff in Rome and Vienna and the CAB staff in Wallingford (England)."

Throughout the last decade, thesaurus work has been an increasing fraction of her career, but never the whole of it. She developed the original specifications for NAL's ISIS indexing subsystem with Gary McCone and Marie Funkhouser, and she and Ms. Funkhouser did all the early testing of the system.

She wrote the Indexing Branch's manual *AGRICOLA—Guide to Subject Indexing*. Recently, in electronic form, this has become one of the most often consulted publications on the NAL gopher. She also wrote for the Indexing Branch many of the "Notes to Indexers" that provide guidance in thorny corners of the indexing field.

Outside NAL, Ms. Hood served on the Forage and Grazing Terminology Committee that published *Terminology for Grazing Lands and Grazing Animals* in 1991. She gave presentations on indexing and geographic information at courses sponsored by NFAIS, the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services. She was a reviewer for the recently published revision of the ANSI standard for thesaurus construction. She gave a major presentation, "International Cooperation in Thesaurus Development and Main-

tenance," to developers and users of the Global Change Master Directory, a non-bibliographic database. The *Quarterly Bulletin* of the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialists (IAALD) published her article "Reconciling the CAB thesaurus and AGROVOC."

The reconciliation of the two major agricultural thesauri, the *CAB Thesaurus* and FAO's *AGROVOC*, is necessary for the development of the UAT (Universal Agricultural Thesaurus), the international project to unify subject access to agricultural information. Ms. Hood is proudest of her contributions to this gargantuan task. At NAL, she developed the Thesaurus Management Section staff into a dedicated team and led them to achieve the classification of AGROVOC. As the lead NAL representative on the UAT Working Group, she worked all communications channels, from face-to-face through fax to ftp, with FAO and CAB International to build the logical structure of the thesaurus.

In retirement, Ms. Hood is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, Bob, who retired in 1991. They plan to enjoy extended stays at their condominium in Ocean City with Danny, their Jack Russell terrier.

—Judith Torgerson

Speight Retires

On the last day of March 1995, Anita S. Speight, head of the Current Awareness Literature Service (CALS) section in NAL's Database Administration Branch, Information Systems Division, retired after more than 29 years of service in the government. CALS is responsible for providing bibliographic citations from NAL's AGRICOLA database and related bio-sciences databases based on subject profiles to individual scientists throughout USDA and to subscribing clientele. Speight joined the CALS staff as a technical information specialist in October 1981, and was promoted to supervisor of CALS in 1986.

Speight's NAL service began in November 1969 when she was hired as a telephone operator with the Office of the Director. She operated a switchboard located in the NAL lobby, where she also provided directional service as a receptionist. From February 1972 to April 1974, Speight worked as a clerk-typist in the Procurement Section, moved to the Cataloging Section where she converted to library technician. In 1974 she transferred to the Indexing Section where she remained until her reassignment to technical information specialist in CALS. Speight's government service began in 1951 in clerical work with the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA), the Department of the Army, then back to CAA (Federal Aviation Administration). In 1955 she left the government to care for her children, and was reinstated at NAL in 1969.

At her retirement party Anita told the story, "My life with the Department of Agriculture actually began in 1932 when my father worked with the research program on sugar beet production in Fort Collins, Colorado. Shortly after that he was transferred to the Plant Industry Station at Arlington Farm and then to Beltsville, where, upon his retirement, he was leader of Sugar Beet Investigations." Another anecdote Anita tells is that once when described by someone as being "cute as a little puppy," the speaker didn't know that "I was born in the hospital on the County Poor Farm at Fort Collins, and was delivered by a doctor who had once been a veterinarian."

In retirement Anita's immediate plan is to sell her house in Beltsville and relocate to a warmer climate. She is being pulled several different directions, however, since she said, "I have children and grandchildren here in Maryland, in Mississippi, and in Arizona, and a sister in North Carolina."

Fusonie Retires

After nearly 26 years at the National Agricultural Library, Dr. Alan E. Fusonie retired at end of February 1995. He had spent the entire time working with rare books and other special collections, the last dozen years as head of the Special Collections section, now in NAL's Reference and User Services Branch. The section is responsible for maintaining, preserving, and providing services from rare books, manuscripts, archival materials, photography, posters, nursery and seed trade catalogs, maps, audio-visuals, and similar materials requiring special storage and access.

Fusonie developed and maintained throughout his service a special rapport with NAL users doing research utilizing special collections and involving material of historical interest. This service often resulted in professional acknowlegements in publications or materials derived from the work, and formed the basis for successful cooperative ventures with other institutions or organizations and individuals.

Early in his tenure, Fusonie developed a program for restoration, deacidification, encapsulation, or other archival treatment of rare books and manuscripts, posters, broadsides, etc.,

(continued on following page)

photo: J. Swab

Anita Speight

photo: J. Swab

Alan Fusonie, with his wife "D.J.," cuts cake at his retirement party.

and special processing and bibliographic description of gift collections and other special acquisitions, that resulted in significant preservation of these materials and enhancement of their access and use. Many of the bibliographic efforts resulted in publication of registers or finding aids authored, co-authored, or guided by Fusonie; for example, the bibliography, *Heritage of American Agriculture: Pre-1870 Imprints....*

He developed an exhibition program which resulted in numerous exhibitions of materials from NAL collections and materials loaned by other organizations or individuals, many in cooperation with the Smithsonian or other museums, other libraries, government agencies, embassies, and national or international groups. Among outstanding exhibits involving external cooperation were: *Land and Cattle: The Story of a New Mexico Rancher*; *Black Rural Life in America*; *Green Fields: Two Hundred Years of Louisiana Sugar*; *The German Housebarn in America*; *The Missouri Mule—Alive and Kicking*; *The Art of Gardening: Maryland Landscapes and the American Garden Aesthetics, 1730-1930*; *Agriculture in China*; *The Art of American Livestock Breeding*; and *The 50th Anniversary of Smokey Bear.* Many of these exhibits were shown at other institutions as well as at NAL.

Fusonie also initiated an oral history program at NAL in which NAL staff interviewed noted persons in agriculture and related sciences or businesses and recorded the interviews on videotape. At the same time he began collection of oral histories from other sources. Although not a large program, it forms a foundation for future building of the collection.

Active in a number of professional associations in history, archives, preservation, conservation, and related fields, Fusonie has been a frequent speaker and panelist at meetings, contributor to professional literature, and editor of publications. For the American Bicentennial in 1976, Fusonie collaborated with his wife, D.J. Fusonie, to compile and annotate the bibliography, *George Washington's Interest in Agriculture*. With Roland Jefferson of the U.S. National Arboretum, Fusonie co-authored *The Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees of Washington, D.C....* Fusonie was a co-editor for 10 years of the *Journal of NAL Associates* and several Associates publications. He has contributed scholarly articles to the journal, *Agricultural History* (Spring 1986, 1989, 1990, & 1995), and a variety of other publications including *Maryland Magazine* and the *Encyclopedia of American Forests and Conservation History*.

During much of his tenure at NAL, Fusonie was also a part-time Professor of both American and European History at Prince George's Community College, Charles County Community College, and the University College at the University of Maryland. Annually he participates as a Media Judge in National History Day. He frequently gives slide talks to citizen groups at garden clubs, public libraries, etc., and to university audiences both locally and elsewhere in the U.S. on various aspects of American history and culture, including, art, agriculture, plant exploration, plantation life, the Westward Movement, horticulture, and climate.

photo: J. Swab

In one of his final acts as Head of Special Collections, Alan Fusonie (left) presents rare books on birds to Dr. Karl Stauber and two of his staff, Barbara Meister and Veronica de la Garza.

(See also "Stauber...," pages 12-15 of this issue of *ALIN*.

He is also active in a number of historical, environmental, museum, and library associations, including the Association for Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the American Chestnut Land Trust, the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, the Friends of Historic Deerfield, the Calvert County Farm Bureau, the Friends of the Jefferson Patterson Park Museum, and the Friends of Calvert County Public Library.

Born in Waterbury, Connecticut, Fusonie earned his bachelor's degree in economics at Lenoir Rhyne College in North Carolina, his master's in American history at Xavier University in Ohio, and his doctor's degree in modern European history at Catholic University, Washington, DC.

Fusonie and his wife, D.J. Fusonie, a librarian recently retired from USDA's Economic Research Service, reside in Calvert County, Maryland, where they practice wildlife conservation and self-sufficiency on their 46-acre farm. They raise horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry, and are actively involved in the preservation of several rare livestock breeds. Both are currently writing books.

At the retirement reception held for Fusonie in late February, guests from about 20 organizations and agencies with whom he has collaborated over the years spoke to those assembled from current, retired, and former NAL staff and visitors. All gave anecdotes about the successes, joked about the trials and tribulations, and enthusiastically praised the outcomes of the projects for which Fusonie provided leadership and benefit to both NAL and the cooperating organizations.

photo: J. Swab

Nataliya Soloshenko

Correa Interns at NAL

photo: j. Swab

Daui Correa

Daui Correa, a librarian with EMBRAPA, Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuaria (Brazilian Agency for Agricultural Research) in Brasília, worked at NAL as an intern for 3 weeks as part of her master's program in library science (August 1996) at the University of Pittsburgh.

At NAL she received an overview of both technical and public services. A specialist working in the EMBRAPA center for Brazilian Savannahs – one of 45 centers in all of the states of Brazil – Correa holds an undergraduate library degree from the Escola de Biblioteconomia de São Paulo. Her husband, Paulo Abrantes, is a Fellow of the Center for the Philosophy of Science at the University of Pittsburgh.

–Joseph N. Swab

Soloshenko Conducts Library Research at NAL

Nataliya Soloshenko, a librarian from the Library of Natural Sciences of the National Academy of Sciences in Moscow, Russia, visited NAL for several weeks in the Spring of 1995 as a part of the Junior Faculty Development Program, sponsored by the Fulbright Program. In this program she spent an academic year at the University of Maryland, College of Library and Information Services, from September 1994 through June 1995. The program involved both coursework and research.

Soloshenko's research project, for which she gathered some information at NAL interviewing and working with reference librarians, was information needs of users and barriers to fulfilling them and the problems information specialists face in providing services. She indicated that the conception of services in her home library in Russia is much the same as that of NAL.

–Joseph N. Swab

Special Events

NAL/IICA Agree to Share Agricultural Information

The National Agricultural Library and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) will work together to enhance access to agricultural information for the United States and countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

This is the basis of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that NAL Director Pamela Q. J. André and IICA Director General Carlos E. Aquino Gonzalez recently signed in Washington, D.C.

Participants in the MOU signing ceremony included staffs of IICA, NAL, USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service office of International Cooperation and Development (FAS), and the Associates of NAL, Inc. (Assoc.). The ceremony was held at USDA's Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building on April 24, 1995.

The MOU signing recognizes the collaboration proposed at the *Inter-American Planning Workshop for Agricultural Information Transfer and Networking* that was held by NAL and countries from Latin America and the Caribbean in Washington, DC, and Beltsville, MD, in January, 1994 [See "Inter-American Cooperation Is Focus of International Workshop on Agricultural Information," *ALIN*, 20(7-9):1, 11-19, Jul-Sep 94 for full report]. During workshop deliberations, participants agreed that closer collaboration in exchanging agricultural information would improve agriculture in all participating countries.

photo: J. Swab

Carlos Aquino Gonzalez and Pamela André signing the MOU between IICA and NAL.

photo: J. Swab

Participants in the MOU ceremony were (L-R) Howard Steele, FAS; Dave Winkelmann, FAS; Mari Stull, IICA; Lynnett Wagner, FAS; Pam André, NAL; Tom Bryant, Jr., Assoc.; Carlos Aquino, IICA; David Black, IICA; Maria Pisa, NAL; Marcial Sanchez-Lam, IICA; and John Miranda, FAS.

In general, the MOU calls for "promoting and strengthening the development of the agricultural information infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean...as a means to hasten the improvement of agricultural and rural development" and establishing "a framework and legal basis" for future agreements.

The exchange of publications, cross- training of librarians, cooperation in producing agricultural information systems and strengthening document delivery arrangements are specific activities cited as ways to accomplish the objectives of the MOU.

The MOU will further the objectives of the "General Agreement for Technical Cooperation between USDA and IICA," which was signed by Aquino and then-Acting USDA Secretary Richard Rominger in June 1994. That agreement was a general call for "technical cooperation" between USDA and IICA in food and agricultural development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

photo: J. Swab

Officiating at the OAS/NAL exhibit ceremony were Christopher Thomas , Harriet Babbitt, Cesar Gaviria, and Carlos Aquino Gonzalez.

photo: J. Swab

Tom Bryant, Ambassador Babbit, and Pam André confer at the OAS reception.

IICA is the agency for agriculture of the Inter-American system. It is an organization of "recognized competence and experience in information and documentation systems," and maintains offices in its member states in Latin America and the Caribbean, through which it shares technology.

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NAL Exhibit at OAS

In celebration of United States Week at the Organization of American States (OAS), The Permanent Representative of the US to the OAS, Ambassador Harriet C. Babbit, and the Secretary General of the OAS, Cesar Gaviria hosted and opened an exhibit of materials from the NAL collections on April 24, 1995. Also participating in the ceremony were Christopher Thomas, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, and Carlos Aquino Gonzalez, Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). The exhibit included materials representing agriculture and natural resources of the member countries of IICA, which organized the exhibit with the Associates of NAL, led by Tom Bryant, Jr., Executive Director, and NAL staff. The exhibit opening ceremony was held at the OAS building on April 24, 1995, and the exhibit remained there for a week. A reception followed the ceremony, during which NAL also demonstrated information management technology. (See also the preceding article.)

photo: J. Swab

A guest views the NAL exhibit at the OAS.

New Bibliographies

The bibliographies in the *Quick Bibliography* series are primarily computerized online as batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Public Services Division Staff in response to customer requests. Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among clientele, and probable value to a larger audience. Since October 1988, all *QB's* include search strategies. Unless otherwise specified, citations are from AGRICOLA.

The other bibliographic series, including *Special Reference Briefs*, have been researched and produced to meet special needs of clientele of the Library and its Information Centers. Revisions or updates will be announced when produced. Only one copy of a requested title will be sent; however, requesters may make copies. To request a copy of a *Quick Bibliography*, *Special Reference Brief*, or other bibliographic work, circle the desired title(s) below and send your request with a self-addressed label to:

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Quick Bibliographies

Q.B.–95-19. Tourism Development, January 1988-January 1995. 260 citations in English. Prepared by Patricia LaCaille John. Rural Information Center. April 1995. Updates Q.B. 92-14.

Rural Information Center Publication Series

R.I.C.P.S.–41. Rural Health Services Funding: A Resource Guide. Revised Edition. Compiled by Sarah R. Towner. Rural Information Center Health Service. April 1995. 62p.

R.I.C.P.S.–42. Arts and Humanities Programs in Rural America. Revised Edition. Compiled by Heather K. Moberly. Rural Information Center. May 1995. 54p.

Publications Exchange

Surplus Publications

The National Agricultural Library will provide the following surplus publications to any interested organization that regularly sends free publications to NAL, including most Federal, land-grant, and agricultural research institutions, and foreign exchange partners. Titles not requested will be purged six months after the initial listing.

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Cereal Chemistry. Vols. 45-57, 1968-80; vols. 64-65, 1987-88.

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Soil Science Society of America Proceedings. Vols. 37-39, 1973-1975.

Serial Gaps

The National Agricultural Library identifies gaps in the national collection through collection maintenance activities and patron requests. We would appreciate your donation of the following publications needed to complete NAL collections. If you have questions, contact:

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American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. Vol. 36, no. 3.

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HD1775.M8P65

(Core Lit from page 11)

This distinctive work will be valuable to students of animal science and to professional animal scientists. It will be of major assistance in building institutional resources in the Third World and in helping collectors in developed countries evaluate their collection strengths, measure their journal primacy, and make decisions about preserving historically pertinent literature. A set of compact disks with full texts of the monographs and the last five years of the journals is planned for use in the Third World.

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Wallace C. Olsen is Core Agricultural Literature Project Director, Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University.

ISBN 0-8014-2886-6, $79.95 Cloth, 400 pp., 1993. See order address at the end of this article.

The Literature of Soil Science

Edited by Peter McDonald

This volume serves as a landmark in assessing the influence of soil science literature in the broad context of the agricultural sciences. The introductory chapters deal with the trends of the past fifty years, and French scholars provide two bibliometric studies on the early literature of soils and developments in the current literature on tropical soils. The editor offers a chapter on the characteristics of the literature today, as well as the core listings of monographs and journals based on extensive analysis. The other major chapters are "Contributions to pre-1960s Soil Science Literature in Third World Countries" by Armand Van Wambeke, "Soil Science Societies and Their Publishing Influence" by W.E. Larson, "Present-Day Soil Information Systems" by David L.Anderson and J. Dumanski, "Soil Surveys and Maps" by Ralph J. McCracken and Douglas Helms, "Major Soil Maps of the World" by Peter McDonald, and "Historical Soil Science Literature of the United States" by Roy W. Simonson and Peter McDonald.

The Literature of Soil Science uses citation analysis and other bibliometric techniques to identify the most important journals, conferences, report series, and monographs for countries in the Third World as well as developed countries. Invaluable to soil scientists, agronomists, and university students, it will be of major assistance in building institutional resources in Third World. It will help librarians in developed countries to evaluate their collection strengths, measure journal primacy, and facilitate decisions on preserving historically pertinent literature. A set of compact disks with full texts of the monographs and the last five years of the journals is planned for use in the Third World.

Additional contents of the volume: "Trends and Developments in Soil Science," by B.P. Warkentin; Early Soil Science and Trends in the Early Literature," by Jean Boulaine; "Characteristics of Soil Science Literature," by Peter McDonald; "Bibliometrics of Tropical Soil Sciences: Some Reflections and Orientations," by Rigas Arvanitis and Yvon Chatelin; "Introduction to the Literature of Soil Science in Developing Countries," by S.W. Buol; "Core Monographs in Soil Science," by Peter McDonald; "Primary Journals in Soil Science," by Peter McDonald; and "Updated Reference Resources," by Peter McDonald.

Peter McDonald is Librarian, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, Cornell University.

ISBN 0-8014-2921-8, $65.00 Cloth, 456 pp., 9 charts/graphs, 55tables, 1994.

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Special Events

Photos: J. Swab

Dr. Karl Stauber, USDA's new Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics, visited with NAL Director Pamela André (above) and NAL staff shortly before Congress confirmed his appointment. For a biography of Dr. Stauber and his memorandum to the REE staff regarding the REE mission and his vision for the future, *see pages 12-15.*

photo: J. Swab

In April the National Agricultural Library exhibited materials related to agriculture and natural resources of member nations at the Organization of American States whose headquarters are seen here. At the same time NAL agreed with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) to share agricultural information. For articles and photos, see pages 23-24 of this issue of *ALIN*.

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